THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) No such issue has come to the notice of this Department, Department of Biotechnology and the Office of the Drug Controller General (India) about such a move by NGOs or vaccine manufacturers.

(b) Antirabies vaccine is being manufactured in India by the following manufacturers:

(i) M/s. Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor.

(ii) M/s. Bharat Biotech Ltd., Hyderabad.

(iii) M/s. Serum Institute of India Ltd., Pune.

(iv) Indian Immunological, Hyderabad.

(v) M/s. Cadila Healthcare, Ahmedabad.

(vi) M/s. Chiron, Ankleshwar, Gujarat.

The volume of production of antirabies vaccine is not monitored by this Department and the Office of Drug Controller General (India).

Recommendation of the Satwant Reddy Committee

49. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a report of the Satwant Reddy Committee, which was released on May, 31, Pharma and agro-chemical companies could be granted data exclusivity for their patented products;

(b) if so, what are the main recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) whether it has already submitted its report; and

(d) if so, what are the steps being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) As suggested by Department of Commerce, an Inter-Ministerial Consultative Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals was constituted by Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals on 19.2.2004 to look into the steps to be taken by the Government in the context of the provisions of Article 39.3 of the TRIPS Agreement for the protection of undisclosed information in respect of agrochemicals and pharmaceuticals. The Report has since been submitted to the Department of Commerce on 31.5.2007 and the same is also available on the Website of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals *www.chemicals.gov.in.*

(d) Department of Commerce had taken an Inter-Ministerial meeting on 6.8.2007 wherein it was decided that the concerned administrative ministries i.e. the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Department of AYUSH and the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation would take further necessary action to implement the Report. The Department of Agriculture and Co-operation may proceed with drafting the necessary amendments to the Insecticides Act, 1968 and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare would publicize the report and carry out consultations with stakeholders before proposing appropriate amendments to the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and its Rules.